(a) whether Government have received any letters from Members of Parliament and Members of legislative Assembly about a number of students who could not get admission in the desired course in the Central schools; and

(b) if so, the details thereof alongwith the action taken thereon?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI ARJUN SINGH): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The cases were examined in consultation with Kendriya Vidyalaya Sangathan. Kendriya Vidyalaya Sangathan has reported that the students were not given admission in KVs in the stream of their choice, as they were not found eligible as per the admission guidelines.

Elimination of violence against women

1811. SHRI DARA SINGH: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether U.N. Secretary-General has designated November, 25, to be observed every year as "International Day for Elimination of violence against women" in the world; and

(b) if so, what concrete steps Government have taken so far either by legislation through Parliament or by holding Conference/Seminars in and outside India at National or International level to put an end to this most common human right violation during the last three years?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI KANTI SINGH): (a) The U.N. General Assembly, at its 83rd plenary meeting on 17.12.1999 adopted Resolution No. 54/134 on observance on November, 25 as the 'International Day for the Elimination of Violence Against Women'.

(b) The Government has been giving thrust in the area of review of laws in order to remove gender discriminatory provisions. Action has also been initiated to enact a new law on protection from domestic violence.

During the last three years, the Department of Women and Child Development has also participated in various national and international conferences/seminars on empowerment of women.